

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Nebraska Residents and Businesses Affected by the June 27 Severe Storms in Douglas County

SACRAMENTO – Sandy K. Baruah, Acting Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), today announced that low-interest disaster loans are now available to Nebraska residents and business owners who were affected by the severe storms that occurred June 27, 2008 in Douglas County. SBA acted under its own authority to declare the severe storms a disaster area following the August 20 denial of the state's request for a major disaster declaration.

By declaring a disaster, Acting Administrator Baruah's action makes the SBA assistance available. The declaration covers the **Nebraska** counties of **Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders** and **Washington** and **Pottawattamie** County in Iowa.

"We look forward to working with Nebraska and the people affected by the severe storms and to make SBA disaster loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses," said Acting Administrator Baruah.

"Low-interest Federal disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the storms and tornadoes," said Leon Milobar, SBA's Nebraska District Director. "SBA customer service representatives will be on hand beginning **Wednesday**, **September 3** at **10 am** at the following Disaster Loan Outreach Center to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application," he continued. The center will be located in the following community and will be open on the days and time indicated:

Omaha, NE Millard Branch Library 13214 Westwood Lane

Open Wednesday, September 3 through Thursday, September 18 Mondays thru Fridays 10 am – 6 pm Saturdays 10 am – 2 pm

The center will close Thursday, September 18

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Businesses of any size and private, non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to homeowners and businesses to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations of any size, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Individuals and business owners unable to visit SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Center may obtain information by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955 or disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339 or visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **November 3, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **June 2, 2009**.